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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



IN RE PATENT
APPLICATION OF:

Michael CARROLL

SERIAL No.:

09/416,536

FILING DATE:

October 12, 1999

ART UNIT :

2173

EXAMINER

Ba Huynh

FOR:

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PRESENTING TABLES IN SELECTABLE
PORTIONS

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

MAIL STOP APPEAL BRIEF-PATENTS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

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APR 27 2004

Technology Center 2100

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing in the present application are the following documents:

1. Petition for Extension of Time (two months) (in duplicate);
2. Appellant's Brief on Appeal Under 37 C.F.R. §1.192 (in triplicate); and
3. Check in the amount of \$750.00.

Our check for \$750.00 is enclosed covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent and Trademark Office charges, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account 50-0311, Reference No. 23452-074. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed for that purpose.

If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (703) 464-4806.

Dated: April 22, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick A. Toering", written over a horizontal line.

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PATENT

Attorney Docket No: 23452-074

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : Michael CARROLL CONFIRMATION NO.: 6286
SERIAL NUMBER : 09/416,536 EXAMINER : Ba Huynh
FILING DATE : October 12, 1999 ART UNIT : 2173
FOR : **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PRESENTING TABLES IN SELECTABLE PORTIONS**

Appellant's Brief On Appeal Under 37 C.F.R. §1.192

Mail Stop **APPEAL BRIEF - PATENTS**
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

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APR 27 2004

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

Further to the Notice of Appeal filed on December 22, 2003, Appellant herewith submits Appellant's Brief on Appeal in triplicate pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.192(a), together with a Petition for two-month extension of time.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned for under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-0311 (*Ref. No. 23452-074*).

(1) REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

By virtue of the assignment recorded October 12, 1999 at reel 010319, frame 0876, the real party in interest is **International Business Machines**, Corporation a New York corporation having a place of business in Armonk, New York.

(2) RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

There are no related appeals or interferences.

(3) STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13-16 and 18-26 are pending in this case. Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, 18, 20-23, 25, and 26 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent Number 5,664,127 issued to Anderson *et al.* ("Anderson"). Claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 21, 24-26 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent Number 6,097,391 issued to Wilcox ("Wilcox"). Claims 14 and 19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly obvious in view of Anderson.

Appellant appeals the rejections of claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13-16 and 18-26.

(4) STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

Appellant has not amended the claims subsequent to the Final Office Action dated July 23, 2003.

(5) SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Various embodiments of Appellant's invention are directed to a system, method, and medium for presenting a portion of a table and enabling a user to select presentation of other portions of the table. The system may include a table presentation module that presents one or more portions of a table in a GUI,

and a user selectable graphics presentation module that presents one or more user-selectable graphical portions in the GUI. In one embodiment, each of the user-selectable graphical portions may represent other portions of the table that may be selected by a user for presentation in the GUI. See the specification at page 2, lines 6-8 and page 3, lines 5-14.

The invention may include, a table format selection module that enables the user to select a number of rows and columns, a size of the rows and columns, a manner in which the rows and columns are depicted, and other formatting options. The format selection module may also present the user with a menu to select cells that are to be included in a grouping. A user may desire to group, for example, several otherwise discontinuous rows, columns, or other cells together for presentation in the GUI. A tab selection module enables a user to select a user-selectable portion, such as a tab. When the user selects the user-selectable portion, in for example, a GUI, a table presentation module presents the grouping of cells corresponding the selected user-selectable portion. See the specification at page 8, lines 6-9 and lines 19-20, page 9, lines 7-8 and 19-21, and page 10, lines 1-2.

(6) ISSUES

1. Whether claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, 18, 20-23, 25, and 26 are anticipated, under 35 U.S.C 102(b), by U.S. Patent No. 5,664,127 to Anderson et al ("Anderson").
2. Whether claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 21, and 24-26 are anticipated, under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), by U.S. Patent No. 6,097,391 to Wilcox ("Wilcox").

(7) GROUPING OF CLAIMS

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13-16 and 18-26 are separately patentable. However, for purposes of appeal, Appellant has grouped various claims together. In particular, Appellant requests that claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13-16, and 18-23

be considered to stand and fall together; and that each of claims 24-26 be considered to stand and fall separately.

(8) ARGUMENT

For issue 1, the question to be resolved is whether Anderson anticipates claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, 18, 20-23, 25, and 26. For issue 2, the question to be resolved is whether Wilcox anticipates claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 21, and 24-26. Appellant respectfully submits that the asserted rejections with Anderson and Wilcox are improper because each of the references independently fails to disclose each of the claimed elements. Appellant provides below a discussion of the requirements for anticipation under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and (e); and an application of these requirements to each claim or claim grouping.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), as Allegedly Anticipated by Anderson

Requirements for Anticipation

As stated in the MPEP § 2131, a claim is anticipated only if each element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described in a single prior art reference. The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claim. *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989).

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13-16, and 18-23

Appellant respectfully submits that the rejection of claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, 18, and 20-23 under 35 U.S.C §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Anderson is improper for at least failing to disclose all of the features of the claims.

Claim 1 includes, *inter alia*, the features of "the table having one or more user selectable table portions" and "a graphics presentation module that presents one or more graphical portions in the graphical user interface, wherein a user

assigns the one or more user selectable table portions to at least one of the one or more graphical portions." Anderson does not disclose these features.

Apparently, the Examiner relies on col. 8, lines 10-40 of Anderson to disclose these features. The relevant portion in col. 8, lines 10-18 has been repeated below for convenience.

As shown in FIGS. 2C-E, individual notebook pages are identified by page identifiers 260, preferably located along one edge of the notebook 250. In a preferred embodiment, each page identifier is in the form of a tab member situated at the bottom edge of the notebook. Each tab member may include representative indicia, such as textual or graphic labels, including user-selected titles representing the contents of a corresponding page...

Thus, it appears that Anderson discloses a page identifier for identifying pages and for navigating between pages of a multi-page spreadsheet. These page identifiers are not the same as Appellant's graphic portions. A user of Anderson's table can not assign one or more table portions to a page identifier, because Anderson's page identifiers are pre-set to correspond to a single page in the table.

Apparently, Anderson allows table portions to be entered, cut-and-pasted, copied, etc., into these pages in a conventional manner. The page identifiers allow the user to navigate these pages either before or after table portions are included therein. This navigation among pages is also conventional. These operations are not the same as Appellant's *assigning* a table portion to a graphics portion as set forth in Appellant's specification at, for example, page 6, line 15 through page 7, line 3; page 8, line 10 through page 9, line 2; and page 9, lines 9-18 of the specification, which has been reproduced below for convenience:

According to another embodiment of the present invention, two or more rows 12a-12e may be grouped together, presented in the GUI, and associated with a single user-selectable portion 14a-14e. For example, Fig. 3 depicts a table corresponding to another embodiment of the present invention. Table 10 comprises a plurality of rows 12a-12e, each

comprising four cells 16 arranged in columns. It may be desirable to present groups of information within table 10 together in the GUI. For example, table 10 depicts a painter's chart of work to be performed. The columns may indicate the room, color, room size, and whether the room has any windows. The user may desire to group rooms on the same floor, as for example, the first and second rows and the third and fourth rows in the example of Fig. 3.

...Table format selection module 20 may also enable a user to select the format for presenting the table in a GUI. According to one embodiment, table format selection module 20 may enable a user to select whether to present table 10 with one or more user-selectable portions 14a-14e associated with one or more of the portions of table 10. For example, table format selection module 20 may present a menu in a GUI to the user and permit the user to select to present table 10 in a tabbed row format, as for example, depicted in Figs. 2 and 4. Table format selection module 20 may then receive a selection from the user and present table 10 in the format selected.

Table format selection module 20 may also present the user with a menu to select cells 16 that are to be included in grouping 18. A user may desire to group several rows, columns or other cells together for presentation in the GUI. Groupings 18 may then be associated with user-selectable portion 14 and presented in the GUI as depicted in Figs. 2 and 4...

...For example, as depicted in Fig. 2(a), if the selected tab is user-selectable portion 14a, then table presentation module 22 may present row 12a corresponding to user-selectable portion 14a, along with user-selectable portions 14b-14e. As depicted in Fig. 4(a), table presentation module 22 may present grouping 18 corresponding to the selected user-selectable portion 14. According to one embodiment of the present invention, upon initial presentation of table 10, table presentation module 22 may present first row 12 or grouping 18 in table 10. Other rows or groupings 18 may also be presented in the initial presentation before a user has selected user-selectable portion 14. For example, a default row 12 or grouping 18 may be assigned by a user.

Appellant respectfully submits that Anderson does not disclose *assigning* a table portion to a graphics portion as set forth in independent claim 1 and described in the passage above from Appellant's specification.

Furthermore, the Examiner in his arguments relies on dragging and dropping a selected portion of the table to his so-called "graphics portions" which are more appropriately described as other table portions. However, the dragging and dropping of a selected table portion is not the same as Appellant's assigning a selected table portion as set forth in claim 1.

Rather, Anderson's dragging and dropping merely allows the user to move one portion of the table to a different location. However, dragging and dropping to another table portion is clearly not equivalent to assigning a graphics portion as set forth in claim 1. Appellant respectfully submits that the §102(b) rejection is improper because Anderson does not anticipate claim 1.

Claims 6, 11, 16, and 21 include features similar to those recited in claim 1. Dependent claims 3, 5, 8, 10, 13-15, 18-20, 22, and 23 each depend from and include features recited in one of independent claims 1, 6, 11, 16, and 21. Accordingly, Appellant submits that the rejections of these claims are also improper and must be withdrawn.

Independent Claim 25

Appellant respectfully submits that the rejection of claim 25 under 35 U.S.C §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Anderson is improper for at least failing to disclose all of the features of the claim.

Claim 25 includes, *inter alia*, the features of "the table including one or more sheets, each of the one or more sheets including a tab for navigating among the one or more sheets, the table having a plurality of table portions" and "enabling a user to assign a user-selectable graphics portion to the selected two or more of the discontinuous table portions."

The Examiner appears to rely on col. 9, lines 19-65 of Anderson to disclose these features. This description, in relevant part (col. 9, lines 19-33 and lines 44-65), has been repeated below for convenience:

A 2-D block is specified by selecting, with mouse 105 or keyboard 104, opposing corners. In FIG. 2C, for example, the block 254 is defined by corner cells C5 and F14. Additional selection examples are illustrated in FIG. 4A-E. For example, column B (col. 411) is selected by clicking the column heading 410; similarly row 3 (row 421) is chosen by clicking row heading 420. Selection may be additive (i.e. additional selections are appended to the current ones), as shown by selection of a row 420 and a column 410 in FIG. 4C. To facilitate the selection of all cell members (e.g., block 431), a select-all button 430 is also provided. In addition to these "contiguous" blocks, non-contiguous block selection (e.g., selection of blocks 441, 442) is provided by use of a status key (e.g., CTRL-, ALT-, or SHIFT-) plus a mouse event (e.g., click and drag operations)...

...Pages may be selected or grouped together, thereby providing a means for changing multiple pages simultaneously. In much the same manner as cells from a spread are grouped into 2-D blocks, a range of pages are grouped by specifying beginning and ending members. As shown in FIG. 4F, a range from Page A to Page K may be achieved by selecting tabs A (261) and K (267) from identifiers 260, for example, while depressing a key (e.g. status key). A grouping indicator 268 is displayed for indicating members of a group; groupings may also be annotated with user specified labels. Once grouped, a page of the group may have its operations (e.g., selection, data entry, and the like) percolate to other members of the group as desired. A non-contiguous selection of pages may also be selected (even across different pages); for example, a selection of Pages A and D, but not B and C, may achieved by selecting tabs A and D while depressing a second key (e.g., CTRL-key). Furthermore, groups may overlap (i.e., a page can be in more than one group), as desired. By selectively activating a group mode (e.g., by toggling group button 273), groupings may be temporarily turned off, in which case events are not percolated to other members of the group.

The portion of Anderson immediately below this cited portion, in col. 10, lines 9-10, states:

...Similarly, block or aggregate operations may propagate across member pages.

At best, Anderson discloses selecting multiple columns, rows, or cells to be members of a group in order to perform the same aggregate operation on all

the selected members of the group (See col. 9, lines 54-56 of Anderson). While Anderson apparently allows columns, rows, and cells to be selected into groups for aggregating operations, Anderson does not disclose “enabling a user to assign a user-selectable graphics portion to the selected two or more of the discontinuous table portions” and “in response to a user selecting the user-selectable graphics portion, presenting the selected two or more discontinuous table portions.” For at least this reason, Anderson does not anticipate claim 25.

Appellant submits that Anderson discloses a page identifier for identifying pages and navigating between pages of a multi-page spreadsheet in a conventional manner. These page identifiers are not the same as the Appellant's graphic portions that can be assigned by a user to discontinuous table portions. Therefore, Appellant submits that Anderson does not disclose the invention set forth in claim 25.

Furthermore, Anderson does not disclose enabling a user to select *discontinuous* table portions and assign a graphics portion to the selected *discontinuous* table portions, where the graphics portion can later be selected to present the selected discontinuous table portions. Appellant respectfully submits that the §102(b) rejection is improper, because Anderson does not anticipate claim 25.

Independent Claim 26

Appellant respectfully submits that the rejection of claim 26 under 35 U.S.C §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Anderson is improper for failing to disclose all of the features of the claim.

Claim 26 includes, *inter alia*, the features of “the table including a plurality of table portions on a single sheet”, “enabling a user to select two or more discontinuous table portions of the plurality of table portions on the single sheet,” and “enabling a user to assign a user-selectable graphics portions to the selected two or more of the discontinuous table portions.”

Appellant respectfully submits that Anderson discloses a page identifier for identifying pages and navigating between pages of a multi-page spreadsheet in a conventional manner. As set forth above, these page identifiers are not equivalent to the Appellant's graphics portions that can be assigned by a user to discontinuous table portions.

Again, the Examiner appears to rely on col. 9, lines 19-65, of Anderson to disclose these features, which was reproduced above in the discussion of claim 25. As explained above, it appears that Anderson discloses simultaneously selecting multiple, columns, rows, or cells in order to perform the same aggregate operation on all the selected members. While Anderson allows columns, rows, and cells to be selected simultaneously, Anderson does not disclose "enabling a user to select two or more discontinuous table portions of the plurality of table portions on the single sheet," "enabling a user to assign a user-selectable graphics portions to the selected two or more of the discontinuous table portions," and then "in response to a user selecting the user-selectable graphics portion, presenting the selected two or more discontinuous table portions in a display." For at least this reason, Appellant respectfully submits that Anderson does not disclose the features of claim 26.

Additionally, the invention as set forth in claim 26 includes a table on a *single sheet*. A user can select the discontinuous portions of this single sheet table and assign a graphics portion to them. Appellant respectfully submits that Anderson does not disclose enabling a user to select discontinuous table portions of a *single sheet* table and assigning a graphics portion to the selected discontinuous table portions, where the graphics portion can later be selected to present the selected discontinuous table portions. For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellant respectfully submits that claim 26 is not anticipated by Anderson.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(), as Allegedly Anticipated by Wilcox

Independent Claims 1, 6, 11, 16, and 21

Appellant respectfully submits that the rejection of independent claims 1, 6, 11, 16, and 21 under 35 U.S.C §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Wilcox is improper for failing to disclose all of the features of the claims.

Claim 1 includes, *inter alia*, the features of “the table having one or more user selectable table portions” and “a graphics presentation module that presents one or more graphical portions in the graphical user interface, wherein a user assigns the one or more user selectable table portions to at least one of the one or more graphical portions.” At least these features are not disclosed by Wilcox.

Apparently, the Examiner relies on Wilcox col. 7, line 31 to col. 8, line 14 to disclose these features. The relevant portions of this description, have been repeated below for convenience:

...The present invention provides a set of icons that correspond to the pages in a tabbed notebook...

...These icons are called Zframes...

...Pages to be displayed can be selected by pointing and clicking to one of the tabs in the tab row 308 with a graphical user input device such as a mouse. ZFtray 324 contains Zframes 310-313. There is one Zframe for each page in the tabbed notebook...

...A user can move objects between pages in the tabbed notebook by dragging an object...and dropping the object into the Zframe corresponding to the destination page...

Thus, while Wilcox apparently discloses operations such as moving data objects between tabbed pages of a notebook, dragging a data object from one pre-assigned page (i.e., a page exists as an already assigned page to a tab or an icon) of a notebook and dropping it onto another Zframe of a pre-assigned page;

these Zframes are not the same as Appellant's assigning one or more user-selectable table portions to at least one of the one or more graphical portions as set forth in claim 1. Wilcox's Zframes appear to be identical to the page identifiers disclosed in Anderson.

At best, Wilcox discloses two sets of navigational tabs. However, Wilcox does not disclose a graphics presentation module that presents one or more graphical portions in the graphical user interface, wherein a user assigns the one or more user selectable table portions to at least one of the one or more graphical portions. Appellant submits that the §102(e) rejection is improper because Wilcox does not anticipate claim 1.

Claims 6, 11, 16, and 21 include features similar to those recited in claim 1. Accordingly, Appellant submits that the rejections of these claims are also improper and must be withdrawn.

Independent Claim 24

Appellant respectfully submits that the rejection of claim 24 under 35 U.S.C §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Wilcox is improper for failing to disclose all of the features of the claim.

Claim 24 includes, *inter alia*, the features of "the table including one or more sheets, each of the one or more sheets including a tab for navigating among the one or more sheets, the table having a plurality of table portions" and "enabling a user to assign a user-selectable graphics portion to the selected one or more of the table portions, wherein the user selectable graphics portion is other than the tabs for navigating among the one or more sheets." At least these features are not disclosed by Wilcox.

Appellant submits that claim 24 specifically recites tabs for navigating (such as those disclosed in Wilcox) and user-selectable graphics portions *other than these tabs*. Wilcox does not disclose both tabs for navigating among one or more sheets and user-selectable graphics portions as set forth in claim 24.

The Examiner again relies on Wilcox col. 7, line 31 to col. 8, line 14 to disclose the features of claim 24, which was reproduced, in relevant part, above in the discussion of claim 1. While Wilcox apparently discloses operations such as moving data objects between tabbed pages of a notebook, dragging a data object from one pre-assigned page (i.e., a page exists as an already assigned page to a tab or an icon) of a notebook and dropping it onto another Zframe of a pre-assigned page; these Zframes are not the same as Appellant's assigning a user-selectable graphics portion to a selected table portion to as set forth in claim 24. Wilcox's Zframes appear to be identical to the page identifiers disclosed in Anderson.

At best, Wilcox discloses two sets of navigational tabs. However, Wilcox does not disclose enabling a user to assign a user-selectable graphics portion to the selected one or more of the table portions. Appellant submits that the §102(e) rejection is improper because Wilcox does not anticipate claim 24.

Independent Claim 25

Appellant respectfully submits that the rejection of claim 25 under 35 U.S.C §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Wilcox is improper for at least failing to disclose all of the features of the claim.

Claim 25 includes, *inter alia*, the features of "the table including one or more sheets, each of the one or more sheets including a tab for navigating among the one or more sheets, the table having a plurality of table portions" and "enabling a user to assign a user-selectable graphics portion to the selected two or more of the discontinuous table portions." Wilcox does not disclose these features.

The Examiner again relies on Wilcox col. 7, line 31 to col. 8, line 14 to disclose theses features, which was repeated in the discussion of claim 1. While Wilcox apparently discloses operations such as moving data objects between tabbed pages of a notebook, dragging a data object from one pre-assigned page

(i.e., a page exists as an already assigned page to a tab or an icon) of a notebook and dropping it onto another Zframe of a pre-assigned page, these Zframes are not the same as Appellant's enabling a user to assign a user selectable graphics portion to the selected two or more of the discontinuous table portions as set forth in claim 25. Wilcox's Zframes appear to be identical to the page identifiers disclosed in Anderson.

At best, Wilcox discloses two sets of navigational tabs. However, Wilcox does not disclose enabling a user to assign a user selectable graphics portion to the selected two or more of the discontinuous table portions. Appellant submits that the §102(e) rejection is improper because Wilcox does not disclose the features of claim 25.

Furthermore, Wilcox does not disclose assigning *discontiguous* table portions to a graphics portion. Wilcox only discloses contiguous table portions. Appellant respectfully submits that nowhere in the cited portions of Wilcox does the reference disclose the claimed feature of assigning discontinuous portions.

For at least these reasons, Appellant submits that the §102(e) rejection is improper, because Wilcox does not anticipate claim 25.

Independent Claim 26

Appellant respectfully submits that the rejection of claim 26 under 35 U.S.C §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Wilcox is improper for failing to disclose all of the features of the claim.

Claim 26 includes, *inter alia*, the features of "the table including a plurality of table portions on a single sheet", "enabling a user to select two or more discontinuous table portions of the plurality of table portions on the single sheet," and "enabling a user to assign a user-selectable graphics portions to the selected two or more of the discontinuous table portions." Wilcox does not disclose these features.

The Examiner again relies on Wilcox col. 7, line 31 to col. 8, line 14 to disclose these features. While Wilcox apparently discloses operations such as moving data objects between tabbed pages of a notebook, dragging a data object from one pre-assigned page (i.e., a page exists as an already assigned page to a tab or an icon) of a notebook and dropping it onto another Zframe of a pre-assigned page, these Zframes are not the same as Appellant's enabling a user to assign a user selectable graphics portion to the selected two or more of the discontinuous table portions as set forth in claim 26. Wilcox's Zframes appear to be identical to the page identifiers disclosed in Anderson.

At best, Wilcox discloses two sets of navigational tabs. However, Wilcox does not disclose enabling a user to assign a user selectable graphics portion to the selected two or more of the discontinuous table portions. Appellant submits that the §102(e) rejection is improper because Wilcox does not disclose the features of claim 26.

Additionally, the invention as set forth in claim 26 includes a table *on a single sheet*. A user can select the *discontinuous* portions of this single sheet table and assign a graphics portion to them. Then "in response to a user selecting the user-selectable graphics portion, presenting the selected two or more discontinuous table portions in a display." Appellant respectfully submits that Wilcox does not disclose enabling a user to select discontinuous table portions of a single sheet table and assigning a graphics portion to the selected discontinuous table portions, where the graphics portion can later be selected to present the selected discontinuous table portions.

For at least these reasons, Appellant submits that the §102(e) rejection is improper, because Wilcox does not anticipate claim 26.

Conclusion

Because the references relied upon by the Examiner, either alone or in combination with one another, fail to disclose, teach or suggest all of the features of the claims as set forth above, Appellants respectfully request that the rejection of each of pending claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13-16 and 18-26 under §102(b), §102(e), and §103(a) be reversed.

Respectfully submitted,

MINTZ, LEVIN, COHN, FERRIS,
GLOVSKY AND POPEO, P.C.

Dated: April 22, 2004

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APPENDIX A-PENDING CLAIMS

1. **(Previously Presented)** A system for presenting table information, the table having one or more user selectable table portions, the user selectable table portions including a plurality of rows and columns, the system comprising:
 - a table presentation module that presents the one or more user selectable table portions in a graphical user interface;
 - a graphics presentation module that presents one or more graphical portions in the graphical user interface, wherein a user assigns the one or more user selectable table portions to at least one of the one or more graphical portions; and
 - a user selection module for enabling a user to select the one or more graphical portions thereby causing the table presentation module to present a user selectable table portion assigned to the selected one or more graphical portions.
2. **(Cancelled).**
3. **(Original)** The system of claim 1 wherein the user-selectable graphics portion comprises a tab.
4. **(Cancelled).**
5. **(Original)** The system of claim 1 wherein the user-selectable portions comprise a data display; and further comprising an editing module that enables a user to edit data in the data display of one or more of the user-selectable graphical portions.

6. **(Previously Presented)** A system for presenting table information, the table having one or more user selectable table portions, the user selectable table portions including a plurality of rows and columns, the system comprising:

table presentation means for presenting the one or more user selectable table portions in a graphical user interface;

graphics presentation means for presenting one or more graphical portions in the graphical user interface, wherein a user assigns the one or more user selectable table portions to at least one of the one or more graphical portions; and

user selection means for enabling a user to select the one or more graphical portions thereby causing the table presentation module to present a user selectable table portion assigned to the selected one or more graphical portions.

7. **(Cancelled).**

8. **(Original)** The system of claim 6 wherein the user-selectable graphics portion comprises a tab.

9. **(Cancelled).**

10. **(Original)** The system of claim 6 wherein the user-selectable portions comprise a data display; and further comprising an editing means for enabling a user to edit data in the data display of one or more of the user-selectable graphical portions.

11. **(Previously Presented)** A method for presenting table information, the table having one or more user-selectable table portions, the user-selectable table portions including a plurality of rows and columns, the method comprising:

partitioning a table into the one or more user-selectable table portions;

selecting the one or more of the user-selectable table portions and
presenting the one or more user-selectable table portions in a graphical user
interface;

enabling a user to assign a user-selectable table portion to one or more
graphics portions;

presenting the one or more of the graphics portions in the graphical user
interface; and

enabling a user to select a graphics portion to present the user-selectable
table portion assigned to the selected graphics portion.

12. **(Cancelled).**

13. **(Original)** The method of claim 11 wherein the step of partitioning the
table comprises partitioning the table into groups of one or more rows and
wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting one or more rows.

14. **(Original)** The method of claim 13 wherein the step of presenting
comprises presenting a single row.

15. **(Original)** The method of claim 11 further comprising the step of
presenting data in one or more of the user-selectable graphics portions to identify
the table portions to which that user-selectable graphics portions is assigned.

16. **(Previously Presented)** A computer usable medium having computer
readable program code means embodied therein for presenting table information,
the table having one or more user-selectable table portions, the user-selectable
table portions including a plurality of rows and columns, the medium comprising:

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to
partition a table into the one or more user-selectable table portions;

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to select the one or more of the user-selectable table portions and present the one or more user-selectable table portions in a graphical user interface;

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to enable a user to assign a user-selectable table portion to one or more graphics portions;

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to present the one or more of the graphics portions in the graphical user interface;
and

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to enable a user to select a graphics portion to present the user-selectable table portion assigned to the selected graphics portion.

17. **(Cancelled).**

18. **(Original)** The computer usable medium of claim 16 further comprising:

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to partition the table into groups of one or more rows; and

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to present one or more rows.

19. **(Original)** The computer usable medium of claim 18 wherein the step of presenting comprises presenting a single row.

20. **(Original)** The computer usable medium of claim 16 further comprising
computer readable program code means for causing a computer to present data in one or more of the user-selectable graphics portions to identify the table portions to which that user-selectable graphics portions is assigned.

21. **(Previously Presented)** A method for presenting table information, the table having a plurality of table portions, the table portions including a plurality of rows and columns, the method comprising:

enabling a user to select one or more of the table portions;

enabling a user to assign a user-selectable graphics portion to the selected one or more of the table portions;

presenting the user-selectable graphics portion in a graphical user interface; and

in response to a user selecting the user-selectable graphics portion, presenting the selected one or more table portions.

22. **(Previously Presented)** The method claim of 11, wherein the step of enabling a user to select the user-selectable graphics portion enables a user to select a plurality of user-selectable graphics portions.

23. **(Previously Presented)** The method claim of 22, wherein the plurality of user-selectable graphics portions are in discontinuous order.

24. **(Previously Presented)** A method for presenting table information, the table including one or more sheets, each of the one or more sheets including a tab for navigating among the one or more sheets, the table having a plurality of table portions, each table portion having at least one row and at least one column, the method comprising:

enabling a user to select one or more of the table portions from the table;

enabling a user to assign a user-selectable graphics portion to the selected one or more of the table portions, wherein the user selectable graphics portion is other than the tabs for navigating among the one or more sheets;

presenting the user-selectable graphics portion in a graphical user interface; and

in response to a user selecting the user-selectable graphics portion, presenting the selected one or more table portions.

25. **(Previously Presented)** A method for presenting table information, the table including one or more sheets, each of the one or more sheets including a tab for navigating among the one or more sheets, the table having a plurality of table portions, each table portion having at least one row and at least one column, the method comprising:

enabling a user to select two or more discontinuous table portions;

enabling a user to assign a user-selectable graphics portion to the selected two or more of the discontinuous table portions;

presenting the user-selectable graphics portion in a graphical user interface; and

in response to a user selecting the user-selectable graphics portion, presenting the selected two or more discontinuous table portions in a display.

26. **(Previously Presented)** A method for presenting a table of information, the table including a plurality of table portions on a single sheet, the table portions including a plurality of rows and columns, the method comprising:

enabling a user to select two or more discontinuous table portions of the plurality of table portions on the single sheet;

enabling a user to assign a user-selectable graphics portions to the selected two or more of the discontinuous table portions;

presenting the user-selectable graphics portion in a graphical user interface; and

in response to a user selecting the user-selectable graphics portion, presenting the selected two or more discontinuous table portions in a display.